Additional Checklists

Executive Summary

Key Concepts

- Provide a description of the project and expected results. Concentrates on the essence of your project, not all the side issues and ramifications.
- Gives the pertinent contact information.
- Clearly states what you expect of the funder.
- Clearly states what your organization and others are investing in the project.

Checklist*—**Executive Summary**

| \checkmark | One page |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| \checkmark | Heading for each topic |
| \checkmark | 1. Project title |
| \checkmark | 2. Contact person information |
| \checkmark | 3. Applicant information |
| \checkmark | 4. Mission statement |
| \checkmark | 5. Problem statement |
| \checkmark | 6. Project summary |
| \checkmark | 7. Expected results |
| ✓ | 8. Applicant's investment |
| \checkmark | 9. Funding request |

Management Plan

Key Concepts

- Devise an organization chart clearly showing that the project is highly connected in your management structure and is integral in your infrastructure.
- If you have had other successful grants, briefly describe them.
- State how your project will be fiscally managed and audited.
- Indicate the level of expertise in the subject matter of key personnel—you will include biographical data elsewhere in the proposal.
- Briefly give an overview of how the project will be evaluated—you should include a complete evaluation plan in the proposal.
- Briefly give an overview of how the project will be documented, and where the files will reside.

Checklist*—Management Plan

| \checkmark | To whom does the Project Director report? |
|--------------|---|
| \checkmark | Clear lines of responsibility for all project personnel |
| \checkmark | Screening, training, and monitoring of volunteers |
| ✓ | Consent and privacy issues |
| ✓ | Security of people and things |
| \checkmark | Target population activity documentation |
| \checkmark | Financial transaction documentation |
| ✓ | Insurance and liability issues |
| ✓ | Transportation |

Documentation Plan

Key Concepts

- When in doubt, document.
- Plan what you will share with other organizations, and write that into proposal.
- Decide how you will distribute information.
- Describe in the proposal what you will document, and what will be sent to the funder.

Checklist*—Documentation Plan

| \checkmark | Staff activities |
|--------------|---|
| ✓ | Volunteer activities |
| \checkmark | Partner activities |
| \checkmark | Target population activities |
| \checkmark | Financial activities |
| \checkmark | Training activities |
| \checkmark | Testing activities |
| ✓ | Treatment activities |
| \checkmark | Evaluation and assessment activities |
| \checkmark | Create necessary information (data) capture documents |

Dissemination Plan

Key Concepts

- Realistic but comprehensive—don't promise something you are not willing to do or cannot do.
- Plan dissemination locally, statewide, and nationally.
- Plan the types of information you will share.

Checklist*—Dissemination Plan

| \checkmark | Local presentations at community meetings |
|--------------|---|
| \checkmark | State presentations at conferences, conventions, and meetings |
| \checkmark | National presentations at conferences, conventions, and meetings |
| \checkmark | Local publishing in newspapers and newsletters (articles and reports) |
| \checkmark | State publishing in state magazines and journals (articles and reports) |
| V | National publishing in magazines, journals, and clearinghouses (articles and reports) |
| \checkmark | Internet—Web site |
| \checkmark | Television—local cable access channel |
| \checkmark | Radio interviews |
| \checkmark | Video presentation—tape, DVD, or online |
| \checkmark | Informational pamphlets, leaflets, and brochures |
| \checkmark | Funds in the budget? |

Continuation Plan

Key Concepts

- Buy infrastructure and institutional knowledge with grant funds, not key staff.
- Include letters of support that specifically state how partners will support the project.
- Develop a clear plan to continue the project once funding runs out.
- Do not count on future grant funds to continue the project.

Checklist*—Continuation Plan

| \square | Commitments from applicant organization's leadership (Office of the Secretary) |
|--------------|--|
| \checkmark | Commitments from partners |
| \checkmark | Commitments from community stakeholders |
| \checkmark | Project structured so continuation cost is low (no grant-paid staff) |
| V | Train-the-trainer professional development model (trainers clone themselves) |
| ✓ | Increase institutional capacity (does not cost much to continue) |
| \checkmark | Increase intellectual capital (does not cost much to continue) |
| ✓ | No grant-paid worker bees (when the grant stops, the work stops) |
| ☑ | Obtain expertise from consultants and contractors, not grant-paid employees |

Key Personnel Bios

Key Concepts

- One page.
- Only relevant information.
- No job histories.
- No resumes unless requested.
- No two inch biographies.
- Be sure to state what position each staff member wil hold with regard to the project.

Checklist*—Key Personnel Bios

| \checkmark | One page |
|--------------|------------------------|
| \checkmark | Name |
| \checkmark | Title or position |
| \checkmark | Education |
| \checkmark | Experience summary |
| \checkmark | Accomplishment summary |

Appendix

Key Concepts

- When in doubt, leave it out.
- Include information the funder requests.
- Include only essential material.

Checklist*—Appendix

| \checkmark | Grant funder's requirements |
|--------------|---|
| \checkmark | Observe page limit |
| \checkmark | Number consecutively all appendix pages |
| \checkmark | Key personnel bio sketches |
| V | Organization charts |
| \checkmark | Flow charts |
| V | Timeline |
| V | Letters of support (commitment) |
| \checkmark | Consultant and service contracts |
| V | Partner collaborative agreements |
| \checkmark | Survey instruments and compiled results |
| \checkmark | Focus group guidelines and compilation of results |
| \checkmark | Equipment technical specification sheets |
| \checkmark | Project advisory board member list |
| ✓ | Tax-exempt letter |
| ✓ | Organization's audited budget |
| | |

Bibliography

Key Concepts

- Include only recent or landmark references.
- Do not include references you have not used in your proposal.

Checklist*—Bibliography

| \triangleleft | Recent only |
|-----------------|--|
| \checkmark | Keep it short |
| \checkmark | Tell the truth, include a reference only if used |
| \checkmark | No URLs |
| \square | Do not reference Internet sites—use title of work, author, and organization name |

^{*}Remember that a grant funder's directions (instructions/guidelines) take precedence over any and all other considerations. You must absolutely, positively follow the grant funder's directions exactly, precisely, and painstakingly.